

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 AGR-01 ICA-11 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-10  
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 L-03  
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 CEA-01 SS-15 /141 W  
-----060959 191945Z /45

R 181619Z APR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8541  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, FAO  
SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS

REFERENCE: ROME 6915

1. WHILE ACTION ON THIS CABLE WAS FOR THE DEPARTMENT, MISSION WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT ITS OWN OBSERVATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF OUR VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENTS AT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING. AS EMBASSY MAY BE AWARE, GROUP B AND G-77 WERE LOCKED IN A HEAD-TO-HEAD BATTLE OVER THE QUESTION OF THE ROLE OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY MEETING CHAIRMEN IN THE SIXTH AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY. THE G-77 WAS INSISTING THAT IN ADDITION TO SIMPLY REPORTING, CHAIRMEN WOULD ALSO GIVE THEIR OWN ASSESSMENT OF WHICH OUTSTANDING ISSUES WERE PREVENTING MOVEMENT TOWARD NEGOTIATION OF A COMMODITY AGREEMENT. THIS WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF WHAT WE ANTICIPATE THE G-77 IS LOOKING TOWARD, NAMELY RUMP SESSIONS ON EACH COMMODITY WITH THE CHAIRMEN MEETING WITH KEY IMPORT-  
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ERS AND EXPORTERS AND REPORTING BACK TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON WHICH ISSUES ARE YET UNRESOLVED. GROUP B REFUSED TO ACCEPT SUCH A ROLE FOR CHAIRMEN AND THEREFORE LIMITED THEM SIMPLY TO A REPORTING FUNCTION.

2. ONE OF OUR CONCERNS IS THAT IF CHAIRMEN DO IN FACT MAKE A TRIP TO GENEVA TO REPORT, THE G-77 WILL STILL ATTEMPT TO

INVOLVE THEM IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. SINCE GROUP B WISHES TO AVOID TURNING INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS INTO DEBATE BETWEEN THE G-77 AND GROUP B, RATHER THAN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, WE ARE ALSO TRYING TO LIMIT THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE G-77 CONVERTING THE AD HOC MEETING INTO SUCH A FORUM DESPITE OUR OBJECTIONS.

3. WITH THESE OBSERVATIONS IN MIND, THE MISSION HOPES THE DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH OUR VIEW THAT MR. BRITO SHOULD DEFINITELY NOT ATTEND THE AD HOC MEETING USING THE EXCUSE OF OTHER PRESSING BUSINESS. WE WOULD LIKEWISE ENCOURAGE THE DEPARTMENT NOT TO HAVE MR. WANAMAKER OF THE US, CHAIRMAN OF THE VEGETABLE OILS MEETING, ATTEND THE MEETING. THE FEWER CHAIRMEN WHO SHOW UP FROM OUT OF TOWN THE BETTER.

4. ON QUESTION OF WRITTEN REPORT, THIS WOULD INDEED BE A DIFFICULT TASK. IN ANY CASE, LAST REPORT OF EACH MEETING IS ALWAYS MADE AVAILABLE AND SECGEN REVIEWS EACH COMMODITY HIMSELF. HOWEVER, IT IS PERHAPS UNNECESSARY TO BE TOO PROVOCATIVE BY PROVIDING NO REPORT AT ALL. WE WOULD SUGGEST U.S., BRAZIL AND ANY OTHERS WHO SHARE OUR VIEW SIMPLY HAVE A MEMBER OF THEIR DELEGATION READ A BRIEF REPORT WHICH DOES LITTLE MORE THAN TRACK REPORT AND/OR DECISION OF LAST PREPARATORY MEETING. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMODITIES, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, FAO  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014